

AMENDMENTS TO THE SPECIFICATION

At page 1, immediately before paragraph 0001, please insert the following heading at the left-hand margin:

Field of the Invention

At page 1, between paragraphs 0001 and 0002, please insert the following heading at the left-hand margin:

Background of the Invention

At page 1, between paragraphs 0002 and 0003, please insert the following heading at the left-hand margin:

Summary of the Invention

At page 1, please delete paragraph 0004 as follows:

~~This object is solved by means of the features in Claim 1.~~

At page 1, please delete paragraph 0006 as follows:

~~Advantageous further developments of the invention can be derived from the sub-claims.~~

At page 1, between paragraphs 0006 and 0007, please insert the following heading at the left-hand margin:

Brief Description of the Drawings

At page 2, between paragraphs 0010 and 0011, please insert the following heading at the left-hand margin:

Detailed Description of the Invention

At pages 4 and 5, please amend paragraph 0020 as follows:

If a user selects a particular drink unit, the amount of heat to be withdrawn for it is stored and compared with the performance status, i.e., the available capacity of the steam boiler 8 at this time. Within the full performance range I, there are no restrictions, i.e., any number of drink units can be drawn. In Fig. 3, a first drawing step A is carried out and, after the expiry of a length of time t_8 , a second drawing step B is carried out. After the first

drawing step A, the heater 12 is switched on, which leads to an increase in the capacity, ~~eharakterised~~ characterized by the rise in the curve between A and B. Because of withdrawal step B, a larger amount of hot water is withdrawn, which leads to a larger fall in the capacity or readiness level compared to withdrawal step A. The control device adds with withdrawn capacity or heat amount for each withdrawal step (in the form of the code numbers) and creates a performance status, i.e., it establishes the distance between the capacity and the threshold value S_1 . Shortly after withdrawal step B, a third withdrawal step C is initiated, which results in the withdrawal of a large amount of hot water. The capacity falls into partial performance range II, i.e., into the upper part of partial performance range II_1 . In this range, parallel withdrawal is restricted to a predetermined amount of heat, so that, for example, only two products with slight hot water requirements and/or only one product with a higher hot water requirement can still be withdrawn, whereby heating will take place again after each withdrawal. If withdrawal steps D and E are also initiated and executed, and if the time between the withdrawal steps is not long enough to allow the steam boiler to return to the full performance range II, if there is a further withdrawal step F, the steam boiler lands in the lower partial performance range II_2 , in which, for example, it is possible to dispense only one drink unit. Only at this time is dispensing blocked for all drink units; it remains blocked until the steam boiler 8 has reached its full performance capacity again.